August 15, 1958

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

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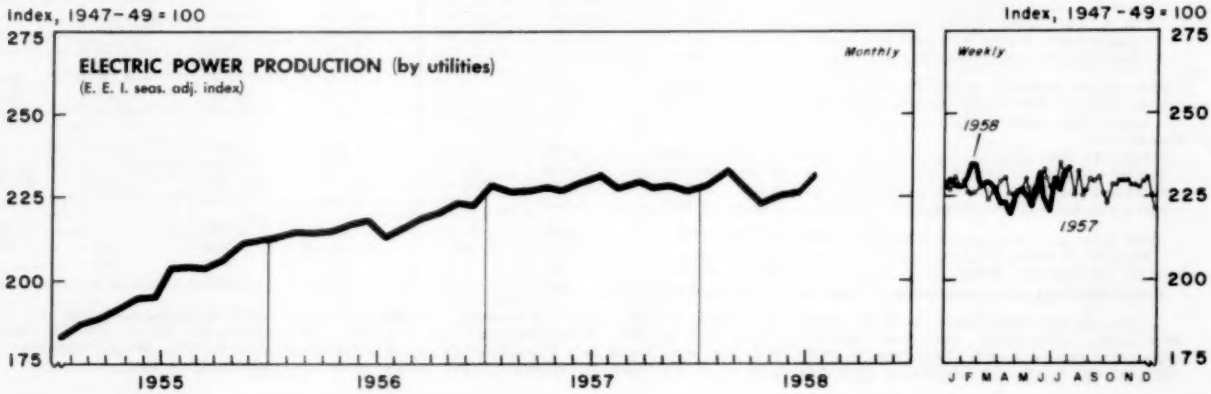
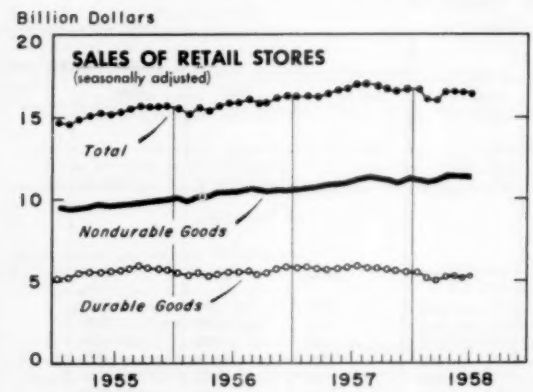
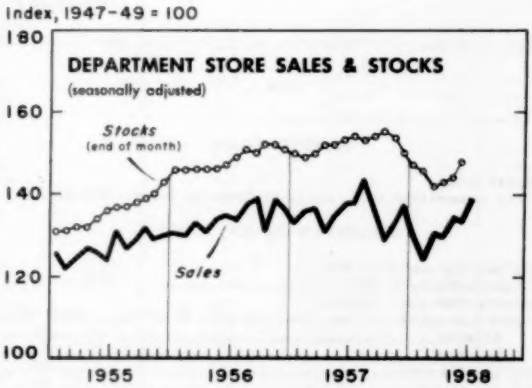
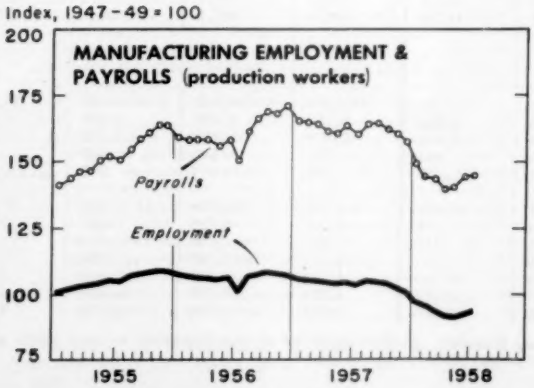
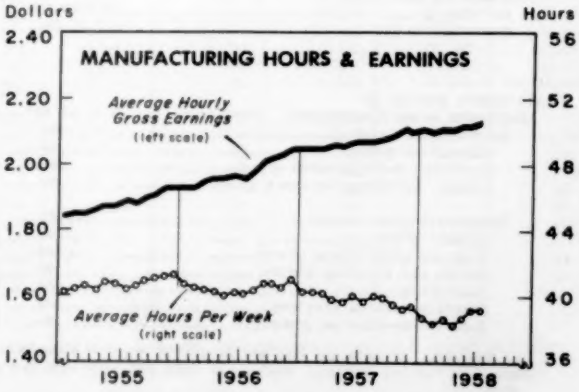
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS











WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1957		1958			
	August 3	August 10	July 19	July 26	August 2	August 9
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*118.2	119.3	119.3	119.4	119.3
Farm products.....do....	.....	*92.8	95.4	94.1	94.8	93.8
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*107.2	112.7	112.4	112.7	112.0
All other.....do....	.....	*125.7	125.7	126.0	126.0	126.1
22 commodities 2/.....do....	90.2	90.2	86.6	86.9	87.2	87.6
Department store sales.....do....	111	118	110	111	114	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,287	1,272	**2,764	**2,631	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	1,185	1,173	2,522	2,389	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	281	265	279	264	271	290
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,910	30,983	31,375	31,217	31,086	31,170
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	24,932	25,124	26,398	26,328	26,005	26,212
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	18,885	18,868	18,518	18,712	18,462	18,296
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	392	537	562	788	634	560
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: 4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	55,550	55,096	55,654	56,440	56,649	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	23,583	23,633	28,334	28,365	28,398	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	86,365	85,955	94,153	93,825	93,512	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	25,241	24,821	32,154	32,066	32,002	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)....do....	31,738	31,742	29,945	29,651	29,545	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,675	8,665	8,942	8,950	8,970	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	4.31	4.34	4.01	4.04	4.08	4.11
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/...1941-43=10..	47.91	47.03	45.25	46.40	47.09	47.46
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	51.88	50.82	48.08	49.44	50.26	50.70
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,606	1,598	1,252	1,309	1,296	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	12,474	12,070	12,257	12,319	12,619	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	140,156	137,143	101,720	102,089	79,122	81,223
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,843	6,797	6,528	6,536	6,545	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	2,033	2,043	1,481	1,546	1,561	1,586
Percent of capacity.....	#79.4	#79.8	54.9	57.3	57.8	58.8
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	741	740	582	608	622	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	342	349	282	283	293	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning August 11, 1958: Production, 1,656 thous. short tons; operating rate, 61.4 percent. * Monthly index for July 1957. ** Excludes 510,000 and 526,000 insured unemployed reported under temporary programs (TUC) for July 19 and July 26, respectively. # Based on January 1, 1957, annual capacity (133,459,150 tons); not comparable with 1958 rates which are based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1957		1958			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
COMMODITY PRICES						
Retail price:						
All commodities (U.S. Dept. of Commerce index).1935-39=100..	216.6	217.5	r220.6	r220.6	220.6	.....
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Engineering construction:						
Contract awards (ENR) 1/.....mil. of dol..	1,561	1,589	1,583	2,314	1,900	2,482
Construction cost indexes:						
American Appraisal Co., The, average, 30 cities...1913=100..	664	668	675	677	680	681
Atlanta.....do....	712	712	737	737	737	737
New York.....do....	705	705	730	730	730	736
San Francisco.....do....	609	610	619	619	635	635
St. Louis.....do....	656	660	666	670	670	670
Associated General Contractors (all types).....do....	485	488	494	498	498	502
Engineering News-Record:						
Building 2/.....1947-49=100..	149.8	152.9	153.3	154.1	155.1	155.5
Construction 2/.....do....	159.8	163.0	165.9	167.2	168.3	168.7
DOMESTIC TRADE						
All retail stores: 3/						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	17,114	16,864	r16,273	r17,364	r16,603	16,434
Durable-goods stores.....do....	6,288	6,058	5,261	5,625	5,590	5,363
Automotive group.....do....	3,609	3,418	2,934	3,082	r3,047	2,891
Furniture and appliance group.....do....	916	863	761	840	r847	825
Lumber, building, hardware group.....do....	979	1,008	876	991	992	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	10,826	10,806	r11,012	r11,739	11,013	11,071
Apparel group.....do....	994	855	1,056	1,058	r963	880
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	511	513	521	544	r520	516
Eating and drinking places.....do....	1,289	1,384	1,171	1,272	r1,283	1,315
Food group.....do....	3,977	4,029	4,048	4,418	r4,104	4,231
Gasoline service stations.....do....	1,321	1,383	1,252	1,335	r1,331	1,407
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,680	1,540	1,667	1,784	r1,651	1,570

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for May and July 1958 are for 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks. 2/ Data reported at the beginning of each month are shown here for the previous month. 3/ Data for July 1958 are advance estimates.

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ITEM	1957		1958			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
DOMESTIC TRADE - Continued						
All retail stores 1/ - Continued						
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total...mil. of dol..	16,783	17,034	r16,502	r16,562	r16,581	16,573
Durable-goods stores.....do....	5,806	5,839	5,163	5,235	r5,149	5,150
Automotive group.....do....	3,246	3,304	2,769	2,812	2,736	.....
Furniture and appliance group.....do....	919	877	827	840	843	.....
Lumber, building, hardware group.....do....	901	914	875	903	902	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	10,977	11,195	r11,339	r11,327	r11,432	11,423
Apparel group.....do....	995	1,038	1,045	1,013	1,012	.....
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	518	524	539	539	532	.....
Eating and drinking places.....do....	1,245	1,257	1,237	1,248	1,228	.....
Food group.....do....	3,986	4,027	4,217	4,159	r4,272	.....
Gasoline service stations.....do....	1,264	1,281	1,283	1,297	1,274	.....
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,771	1,861	1,766	r1,798	1,787	.....
All retail stores, estimated inventories:						
Unadjusted, total.....do....	23,840	23,660	24,640	r24,360	23,770	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do....	10,970	10,880	11,370	r11,270	10,910	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	12,870	12,780	13,270	r13,090	12,860	.....
Adjusted, total.....do....	24,090	24,140	23,930	r23,880	24,020	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do....	10,800	10,850	10,770	r10,790	10,760	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	13,290	13,290	13,160	r13,090	13,260	.....
Firms with 11 or more stores:						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....do....	3,465	3,276	r3,476	r3,795	3,473	.....
Apparel group.....do....	227	182	243	237	223	.....
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	84	83	86	93	87	.....
Eating and drinking places.....do....	76	78	69	74	74	.....
Furniture, homefurnishings stores.....do....	35	32	38	42	38	.....
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,060	953	1,033	1,096	1,028	.....
Grocery stores.....do....	1,427	1,398	1,484	1,684	1,462	.....
Lumber, building-materials dealers.....do....	67	69	60	71	71	.....
Tire, battery, accessory stores.....do....	78	80	68	81	80	.....
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	3,517	3,591	r3,585	r3,631	3,645	.....
Apparel group.....do....	222	229	224	226	225	.....
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	86	84	90	94	90	.....
Eating and drinking places.....do....	74	74	71	73	73	.....
Furniture, homefurnishings stores.....do....	37	35	41	38	40	.....
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,125	1,172	1,094	r1,122	1,117	.....
Grocery stores.....do....	1,432	1,453	1,540	1,537	1,551	.....
Lumber, building-materials dealers.....do....	62	62	60	64	64	.....
Tire, battery, accessory stores.....do....	70	72	68	72	72	.....
Department store sales, United States total:						
Unadjusted index.....1947-49=100..	r130	111	123	130	p126	p113
Adjusted index.....do....	138	138	130	r134	p133	p140
Wholesale trade:						
Sales, estimated (unadjusted), total.....bil. of dol..	11.0	11.4	10.7	10.9	10.9	.....
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	4.2	4.3	3.7	3.9	4.0	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	6.7	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	.....
Inventories, estimated (unadjusted), total.....do....	12.5	12.5	12.0	11.8	11.7	.....
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	6.7	6.6	6.3	6.2	6.2	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.6	.....
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES						
Labor force (Bureau of the Census):						
Civilian labor force, total.....thousands..	69,842	70,228	68,027	68,965	70,418	70,473
Employed.....do....	66,504	67,221	62,907	64,061	64,981	65,179
Agricultural employment.....do....	7,534	7,772	5,558	6,272	6,900	6,718
Nonagricultural employment.....do....	58,970	59,449	57,349	57,789	58,081	58,461
Unemployed.....do....	3,337	3,007	5,120	4,904	5,437	5,294
Employees in nonagricultural establishments: 2/						
Total, unadjusted (U. S. Department of Labor).....do....	52,517	r52,229	49,726	r49,949	r50,396	p50,199
Manufacturing.....do....	16,839	r16,702	15,104	r15,023	r15,188	p15,165
Mining.....do....	827	r824	716	711	r715	p706
Contract construction.....do....	3,015	r3,046	2,493	r2,685	r2,824	p2,908
Transportation and public utilities.....do....	4,176	r4,194	3,883	r3,874	r3,905	p3,908
Wholesale and retail trade.....do....	11,255	r11,229	10,940	r10,961	r11,031	p10,983
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....do....	2,365	r2,396	2,356	r2,370	r2,387	p2,405
Service and miscellaneous.....do....	6,442	r6,427	6,384	r6,455	r6,482	p6,464
Government.....do....	7,598	r7,411	7,850	r7,870	r7,864	p7,660
Production workers in manufacturing industries: 2/						
Total.....do....	12,946	r12,784	11,310	r11,245	r11,406	p11,375
Durable-goods industries.....do....	7,615	r7,445	6,337	r6,269	r6,338	p6,283
Ordnance and accessories.....do....	78	r76	69	68	r68	p66
Lumber and wood products (except furniture).....do....	627	r613	520	r542	r571	p568
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	313	r310	283	284	r287	p290
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	463	r446	402	405	417	p418
Primary metal industries.....do....	1,095	r1,078	849	r840	r858	p853
Fabricated metal products.....do....	893	r875	766	r756	r772	p765
Machinery (except electrical).....do....	1,274	r1,243	1,061	r1,029	r1,012	p998
Electrical machinery.....do....	852	r846	729	r715	r716	p714
Transportation equipment.....do....	1,404	r1,364	1,103	r1,081	r1,081	p1,066
Instruments and related products.....do....	225	221	204	r200	r199	p197

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data for July 1958 are advance estimates. 2/ Revised to the 1957 benchmark; data not directly comparable with previously published figures back to April 1956.

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ITEM	1957		1958			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES - Continued						
Production workers in manufacturing industries - Continued						
Nondurable-goods industries.....thousands..	5,331	r5,339	4,973	r4,976	r5,068	p5,092
Food and kindred products.....do....	1,053	r1,118	949	r978	r1,039	p1,099
Tobacco manufactures.....do....	74	r72	70	r70	r70	p68
Textile-mill products.....do....	914	r896	837	r831	r840	p832
Apparel and other finished textile products.....do....	1,042	r1,023	987	r985	r993	p980
Paper and allied products.....do....	462	r451	434	432	r434	p426
Printing, publishing, and allied products.....do....	550	r546	545	r540	r541	p535
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	542	r537	519	r510	r502	p500
Products of petroleum and coal.....do....	170	r169	157	158	r158	p159
Rubber products.....do....	197	200	176	r172	r176	p177
Leather and leather products.....do....	327	327	300	r302	r315	p316
Manufacturing production-worker indexes: 1/						
Employment: Unadjusted.....1947-49=100..	104.7	103.4	91.4	91.0	92.2	p92.0
Adjusted.....do....	105.2	r104.8	92.5	r92.3	r92.8	p93.2
Payrolls, unadjusted.....do....	163.7	r160.9	139.6	r140.9	144.7	p145.1
Hours and earnings: 1/						
Average weekly hours per worker, all manufacturing...hours..	40.0	r39.8	38.3	r38.7	39.2	p39.2
Durable-goods industries.....do....	40.5	40.0	38.8	39.1	39.6	p39.4
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	39.2	39.4	37.7	38.1	38.7	p38.8
Average weekly earnings, all manufacturing.....dollars..	82.80	r82.39	80.81	r82.04	83.10	p83.50
Durable-goods industries.....do....	88.70	88.00	87.30	r88.37	r89.89	p89.83
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	74.09	74.47	73.14	73.91	75.08	p75.27
Average hourly earnings, all manufacturing.....do....	2.07	2.07	2.11	2.12	2.12	p2.13
Durable-goods industries.....do....	2.19	2.20	2.25	r2.26	r2.27	p2.28
Ordnance and accessories.....do....	2.33	2.34	2.46	r2.46	r2.49	p2.49
Lumber and wood products (except furniture).....do....	1.84	1.82	1.84	r1.88	r1.89	p1.90
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	1.75	1.74	1.77	1.77	1.78	p1.78
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	2.04	2.05	2.09	2.09	r2.10	p2.11
Primary metal industries.....do....	2.47	2.53	2.58	2.58	r2.61	p2.66
Fabricated metal products.....do....	2.18	2.19	2.24	2.25	r2.27	p2.27
Machinery (except electrical).....do....	2.30	2.30	2.36	2.37	2.37	p2.37
Electrical machinery.....do....	2.06	2.05	2.14	2.14	2.15	p2.15
Transportation equipment.....do....	2.40	2.41	2.47	r2.49	2.51	p2.54
Instruments and related products.....do....	2.10	r2.10	2.17	r2.18	r2.19	p2.20
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	1.89	1.89	1.94	1.94	1.94	p1.94
Food and kindred products.....do....	1.93	1.91	2.01	r2.01	r2.01	p2.00
Tobacco manufactures.....do....	1.58	1.61	1.65	r1.66	r1.66	p1.66
Textile-mill products.....do....	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	r1.51	p1.50
Apparel and other finished textile products.....do....	1.48	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	p1.50
Paper and allied products.....do....	2.03	2.06	2.09	2.10	r2.11	p2.13
Printing, publishing, and allied industries.....do....	2.50	2.50	2.55	r2.58	r2.58	p2.58
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	2.23	2.25	2.27	2.29	2.31	p2.33
Products of petroleum and coal.....do....	2.66	2.69	2.74	2.72	r2.73	p2.76
Rubber products.....do....	2.23	2.28	2.29	2.30	r2.34	p2.36
Leather and leather products.....do....	1.54	r1.54	1.57	1.57	1.57	p1.55
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Motor vehicles, factory sales, total.....number..	591,539	582,012	396,712	427,600	413,065	.....
Coaches, total.....do....	389	309	344	241	77	.....
Domestic.....do....	332	302	290	206	70	.....
Passenger cars, total.....do....	496,329	484,718	322,482	352,076	342,228	.....
Domestic.....do....	484,840	474,635	308,904	340,599	334,311	.....
Trucks, total.....do....	94,821	96,985	73,886	75,283	70,760	.....
Domestic.....do....	76,859	76,856	56,029	58,493	56,109	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ See note 2 for page 3.

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